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QUARTERLY FLAX MARKET REVIEW

CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF
AGRICULTURE, MARKET
NEWS SERVICE,
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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
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**DOMESTIC FLAXSEED CRUSHINGS 75 PERCENT LARGER THAN YEAR AGO
OCTOBER 1ST STOCKS RELATIVELY HEAVY DESPITE INCREASED USAGE**

RECEIVED

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Reflecting the brisk demand for linseed oil, United States crushings of flaxseed during the first quarter of the 1941-42 crop year were materially larger than the corresponding three months in other recent seasons, according to the Federal State Market News Service. Utilization by crushers July through September apparently amounted to 12,175,000 bushels against 6,948,000 during the same months last season and 6,814,000 bushels two years back.

Despite the heavy usage, stocks on hand at October 1st were well above average for the date because of the record domestic supplies at the beginning of the season and increased importations during the first quarter. With both the carry-over of old seed at July 1st and the current crop well above other years, the domestic commercial supply of flaxseed for the 1941-42 season apparently was around 4,000,000 bushels greater than a year ago and totaled 37,297,000 bushels. Imports during July through September increased sharply to 4,042,000 bushels, giving total supplies of 41,339,000 bushels for the quarter. Deducting crushings of 12,175,000 bushels during the three months period points to remaining supplies of 29,164,000 bushels as of October 1st. At the corresponding date last year, stocks apparently amounted to 27,609,000 bushels and two years back were placed at 16,822,000 bushels.

Production of linseed oil during the first quarter increased to 236,744,000 pounds and together with July 1st carry-over stocks of 150,936,000 pounds and imports of 31,000 pounds, gave a total supply for the period of 387,711,000 pounds. This was approximately 120,000,000 pounds more than a year ago. Consumption increased substantially compared with the first quarter of 1940-41 with a total disappearance July through September amounting to 226,456,000 pounds against 153,176,000 pounds a year ago. Factory consumption was placed at 141,913,000 pounds or about 40,000,000 pounds more than a year earlier. Other domestic disappearance was placed at 82,874,000 pounds against 50,976,000 pounds during the July-September quarter last season. Exports increased moderately and were placed at 1,669,000 pounds. Factory and warehouse stocks at October 1st were above other recent years and totaled 161,255,000 pounds. This compares with 115,146,000 pounds a year earlier and 112,629,000 pounds on October 1, 1939.

TABLE I. FLAXSEED: SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION, UNITED STATES

	5-Year Average	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
Factory stocks, July 1	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
Market stocks, July 1	1,279	2,484	1,472	1,958	3,148	3,501
Farm stocks, July 1	731	630	552	285	665	2,121
Total carryover, July 1	426	225	175	53	98	1,750
United States production	2,436	3,339	2,199	2,296	3,911	7,372
Total supply	10,070	7,039	8,152	20,152	31,217	31,825
Seed requirements	12,506	10,428	10,351	22,448	35,128	39,197
Domestic commercial supply	1,186	588	1,360	1,898	1,833	1,900 1/
Imports, July-September	11,320	9,840	8,991	20,550	33,245	37,297
Supply for quarter	3,712	5,325	3,561	3,086	1,312	4,042
Crushings, July-September	15,032	15,165	12,552	23,636	34,557	41,339
Supplies remaining, October 1	5,543	7,666	5,043	6,814	6,948	12,175
Imports, October-December	9,489	7,499	7,509	16,822	27,609	29,164
Supply for quarter	3,453	5,153	4,420	2,179	2,566	
Crushings, October-December	12,942	12,652	11,929	19,001	30,175	
Supplies remaining, January 1	6,344	7,754	7,206	8,736	10,083	
Imports, January-March	6,598	4,898	4,723	10,265	20,092	
Supply for quarter	3,403	4,719	6,391	4,793	3,990	
Crushings, January-March	10,001	9,617	11,114	15,053	24,032	
Supply remaining, April 1	5,552	6,461	7,112	7,892	10,228	
Imports, April-June	4,449	3,156	4,002	7,166	13,854	
Supply for quarter	3,169	2,664	4,372	3,154	3,330	
Crushings, April-June	7,618	5,820	8,374	10,320	17,184	
Supplies remaining, or unaccounted for, June 30	4,828	3,989	6,207	6,637	9,386	
Split-up stocks, June 30:	2,790	1,831	2,167	3,683	7,798	
Factory and warehouse	1,484	1,472	1,958	3,148	3,501	
In terminal markets	719	552	285	665	2,121	
On farms	402	175	53	98	1,750	
Unaccounted for	135	-368	-129	-223	426	

1/ Estimated.

Compiled from official data of the Agricultural Marketing Service and the United States Department of Commerce. (Over)

TABLE 2. LINSEED OIL: SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION, UNITED STATES

	5-Year Average	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	1931-32					
	1935-36					
Factory and warehouse stocks, July 1	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Production, July-September	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Imports, July-September	102,998	142,462	145,932	150,250	132,840	150,936
Total supply for quarter	104,965	151,278	98,407	134,326	135,481	236,744
Exports, July-September	1,201	53	16	12	1	31
Factory consumption, July-September	209,164	293,793	244,355	264,583	268,322	387,711
Other domestic disappearance	65,627	93,627	80,702	88,308	101,081	141,913
Total disappearance, July-September	39,257	57,005	50,212	63,233	50,976	82,874
Factory and warehouse stocks, Oct. 1	102,104	150,883	131,309	151,959	153,176	226,456
Production, October-December	104,060	142,905	113,016	112,629	115,146	161,255
Imports, October-December	120,446	150,432	139,106	166,150	192,185	
Total supply for quarter	1,085	98	16	6	9	
Exports, October-December	225,591	293,435	252,118	273,785	307,340	
Factory consumption, October-December	217	183	113	1,841	1,359	
Other domestic disappearance	57,497	67,411	72,332	88,287	100,837	
Total disappearance Oct-December	29,030	34,358	37,920	46,200	51,324	
Factory and warehouse stocks, Jan. 1	86,744	101,952	110,365	136,328	153,520	
Production, January-March	138,847	191,483	141,803	142,457	153,820	
Imports, January-March	104,158	125,587	139,209	150,197	196,281	
Total supply for quarter	242	50	12		15	
Exports, January-March	243,247	317,120	281,024	292,654	350,116	
Factory consumption, January-March	229	162	172	1,180	1,347	
Other domestic disappearance	57,112	63,358	76,511	85,511	106,787	
Total disappearance, January-March	29,782	30,481	42,954	32,763	49,132	
Factory and warehouse stocks, April 1	87,123	94,001	119,637	119,454	157,266	
Production, April-June	156,124	223,119	161,387	173,200	192,850	
Imports, April-June	92,284	77,513	124,823	128,383	183,309	
Total supply for quarter	466	41	19	1	45	
Exports, April-June	248,674	300,373	236,229	301,584	376,204	
Factory consumption, April-June	147	220	135	1,112	1,437	
Other domestic disappearance	77,090	82,039	91,869	99,295	143,100	
Total disappearance, April-June 30	56,129	72,452	63,975	68,337	80,731	
Factory and warehouse stocks, June 30	133,366	154,741	152,979	168,744	225,268	

Compiled from official data of the Agricultural Marketing Service and the United States Department of Commerce.

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In Charge

San Francisco Office

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